PREFACE

THE writing of this book was begun some five years ago, but was interrupted by other calls upon the writer's time. Recent events, particularly the outbreak of Sino-Japanese hostilities, have convinced the writer of the desirability that the Sun Yat-sen "myth" should be exposed. It has, by its inculcation of xenophobia, been a contributory cause to those hostilities. And if the Kuomintang survives in anything like its present form, it will continue to be a menace to foreign interests in China. A .whole generation of a nation's youth cannot be brought up upon a mental diet of calculated anti-foreignism without dangerous consequences. The extent to which this attitude has been cultivated may be gathered from the fact that even while professing friendship and goodwill towards Great Britain, and the British people, in the hope of securing their moral or material support, the Chinese Government continues to encourage the observance of a National Humiliation Day—May 30th—in which the British are held up to opprobium in connection with the Nanking Road incident of 1925. Although there were differences of opinion as to the precautions that should have been taken to cope with this riot, three Foreign Jurists, American, British and Japanese, concurred in the view that in the actual circumstances firing upon the mob was unavoidable. Mobs have been fired upon before and

since, with far more numerous casualties, by Chinese troops and police. But the May soth Incident remains a cardinal feature in the Kuomintang's anti-foreign teachings, probably because it was followed by the first serious manifestations of xenophobia that followed Dr. Sun Yat-sen's death.